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## STABLE SOLUTIONS OF GENTIAN VIOLET.

Dr. Holmes advises adding 3-5% glycerol (C. P.) to stain and keeping in dark cool place.

Dr. Ritchie recommends using phenol water 1 part in 10. This retards but does not prevent decomposition.

R. Kilduffe makes two stock solutions:

- a. Add 5 cc. 40% formol to 95 cc. distilled water.
- b. Saturated alcoholic solution gentian violet.

Mix 25 parts of B with 75 parts of A.

It keeps long and well at ordinary temperatures. There is no decomposition; no moulds grow on it; no modification of technic necessary; preparations made with it are sterile. V. A. L.

## QUICK TEST FOR TREPONEMA PALLIDUM.

Prompt diagnosis is often necessary in cases of suspected syphilis, and simple methods of identification of the spirocheta are desirable.

1. Air-dry films of serum on slide obtained by scraping slightly the margin of sore.
2. Pour over this and renew several times in the course of a minute Hüge's fluid (1 cc. of acetic, 20 cc. formol, and 100 cc. of distilled water).
3. Wash well with water.
4. Cover the preparation with the mordant (5% solution tannic acid in 1% water solution of carbolic acid). Heat till steam rises,—for  $\frac{1}{2}$  minute.
5. Wash 15-30 seconds with water.
6. While wet apply silver stain ( $\frac{1}{4}$  % of silver nitrate in distilled water, to which trace of ammonia has been added, with a capillary pipette until a slight turbidity is evident). Heat again until it steams.
7. Wash with water; dry with blotting paper; mount in Canada Balsam. Cedar oil causes to fade.